(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (f) The amounts payable by some of the companies, into the DPEA, were tentatively calculated and communicated to them sometime back. In May/June, 1989, the companies made some part payments only. The entire findings of the Special Team and subsequent developments are being looked into a fresh.

Set offs to Drug Companies

1626. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of set off allowed by the Special Team appointed to work out the unintended profits made by drug companies in favour of each company;

(b) what are the broad details of the items in respect of which set offs were given;

(c) whether it is a fact that Arya Committee has held that all set offs were unjustified;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Law Ministry has also held that set offs are not justified;

(e) whether it is a fact that members of Special Team were aware of the opinion of Law Ministry and despite this allowed set offs; and

(f) what are the basis on which the Special Team went contrary to Law and realities and what action has been taken to fix responsibility and rectify the amount due?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (f) A Special Team was constituted to determine the amount recoverable from all the drug companies involved in the Supreme Court case. The entire findings of the Special Team and subsequent developments are being lookd into afresh.

Inclusion of Drugs under Price Control

1627. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 21 drugs which have been included under price control with effect from 27th February, 1990 were wrongly omitted by Kelkar Committee;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the Chairman and Member convenor of the Committee who restored to such omissions and fvaoured the importers at the cost of poor people of the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that former Development Commissioner is equally responsible for this charge as he examined the recommendations and accepted the same;

(d) what are the other areas where the decisions of the measures have been violated; and

(e) whether it is a fact that most of the monopoly produced drugs have been excluded which do not fulfil any exclusion criteria, if so, what are the names of those drugs and action taken on each?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) The report of the Kelkar Committee which had experts from different connected disciplines, was an experts opinion which had been accepted by the Government. Therefore, the question of fixing the responsibility does not arise. However, in the past, comments from Dr. Kelkar were obtained on certain specific issues and he reiterated the views of the Committee.

(d) and (e) Government have constituted a Standing Committee to consider all matters relating to DPCO, 1987 and the representations made on various policy issues including inclusion/exclusion of drugs in the Scheduled Categories.